Red Fightin' Blue:

Mario & Sonic at the 2024 U.S. Elections

Review

Review by Jake "Mad Son" Madsen

Yeah, you read that right. Mario and Sonic have decided to dip into the world of American politics in the same way that an insane person might decide to dip into the world of radioactive waste. I'll be honest and say I'm not a huge fan of the *Olympic Games* series that Nintendon't and Segduh tried but I honestly have no clue what compelled them to put two basically cartoon characters into the cutthroat world of American politics, especially considering how the 2024 elections were basically a knife fight between a man so evil hell politely asked him to leave and a woman with the charisma of a post-use Kleenex.

But here's the real kicker, it's actually pretty fun. As I am typing this I'm also wondering whether I was kidnapped by Nintendo and Sega and had my memories altered because I was sure this was going to suck turbo ass but my friends and I were fighting over whose turn to play it was. I'll get into more on why it was so fun later but yeah, someone at Nintendo or Sega had some sort of traumatic brain injury and like Doc fucking Brown from Back to the Future they managed to invent something that actually rocks. It wasn't perfect by any means there was some stuff I didn't care for but it's good, and straight up way better than the lukewarm bowl of oatmeal *Olympic Games* series. Not even Quasimodo could have predicted this. So spread those cheeks and hold your breath because I'm going in.

Gameplay

The gist is this, basically you play as either the Republicans, Mario for President, Luigi for Vice-President, and Toad as the party's campaign chair and pick for Chief of Staff if they win or the Democrats, Sonic for President, Tails for Vice-President, and Knuckles as the party's campaign chair and pick for Chief of Staff if they win. You can't like mix and match, have Sonic be Republican or have Luigi as the Presidential candidate but there's so much to do you don't really miss that.

There are over fifty levels, though you won't play all of them in a single run the game will give you a grab bag of levels over the course of your campaign. Sometimes they'll take place in America or sometimes they'll take place in like the Mushroom Kingdom or DeviantArt (that's where I assume Sonic is from), but the game treats them like they're all in America, which is goddamn hilarious to hear Mario talking about how Station Square has been taken over by the woke liberal mob. The whole game is like bust a gut funny honestly. Some levels like prep levels affect other levels like the debates but some just affect how you do overall, like fundraising and rallies. Others aren't levels so much as like... I don't know what to call them but there's polling and strategizing which is kind of like a visual novel.

The kinds of levels are fundraising, PR, debates, public appearances, rallies, research, coalition building, and scandal management. Scandal management only comes up if you seriously fuck up in the other levels, but it is hilarious, my buddy Charlie had to argue that the Chaos Emeralds were still safe on Fox News after Perfect Chaos destroyed New York (more on that later). All in all, it's amazing how much content is in the game and how much of it is genuinely good. I was smiling like a goober the whole time.

Characters

Okay, there are two parties to choose from and each of the three characters in your party do different things and have strengths, weaknesses and a bonus ability. Sonic is really the unstoppable force to Mario's immovable object but enough yap about the characters as a general concept, like Bobby Hill about to have a steak, let's dig in.

The Republican Ticket: Mario Mario & Luigi Mario

Platform: *Power-Up Power Projection*

Mario's platform is "Power-Up Power Projection" and let me tell you, it's fucking wild. He asserts that the U.S. Military needs to invest heavily in Power-Ups like ghost mushrooms, tanuki suits, propeller hats, and other ridiculously cartoonish shit in order to maintain a competitive edge abroad but he also promises to ensure that the Supreme Court will rule that Power-Ups are covered by the good ole second amendment. Let's just say during my Mario run I was up to my eyes in deep shit when someone used a fire flower to burn down a local mall. Let's investigate the Republicans like a Senate fact-finding committee.

Mario Mario — President (R)

Slogan — "Let's-a-go America!"

You know him, you love him, it's-a-him, Mario. Mario is the Republican candidate for president in this game and he's fucking insane. According to the game he decided to run for president because he was tired of paying taxes on his plumbing business. Whoever decided that his slogan should be "Let's-a-go America!" with his fans all having red hats like his but with the white letters "LAGA" on the front like MAGA is a goddamn genius and I want to shake their hand.

Strengths:

- **Blue-Collar Business Appeal:** Mario's a tradesman so he's got blue collar workers and small business owners basically salivating over the idea that he might lower their taxes and he legitimately wants to. You can have Mario say all kinds of shit about how the small business owner represents the American Dream, small business owners are the hardest working people, and other shit that gets them rock hard to vote for you.
- **LAGA Movement:** Just like MAGA (and Nintendo fans) in real life, LAGA is a bunch of frothing fanatics ready to do anything for Mario and I mean anything. There is no merch they won't buy nor task they won't do because Mario said they should. If you use them strategically, they can flip states just by being so annoying that people are willing to let you win. That's power.
- **Stamina:** Sonic may have speed, but Mario has taken his gas station boner pills and he's ready to fuck, politically speaking. He's the tortoise to Sonic's hair and he can do some seriously grueling tasks without depleting the meter. Which I guess should have been obvious considering the man literally smashes bricks with his head to get money, we should all wish to be as about the bag as he is.

Weaknesses:

- **His Accent:** No, seriously. You get penalties to public speaking and appearances because Mario sounds like a WWII caricature of an Italian man. I lost a debate against Sonic because he did an insulting impression of me and there's no coming back from that.
- **LAGA Movement:** Just like Herpes they're back. They're the double-edged mushroom for Mario because just like the real-life movement they are some of the biggest idiots on the planet, prone to getting distracted by the next louder, shinier

thing and getting tossed in jail for an uprising. They'll go to bat for you on all of your misdeeds but if you haven't strategized around you they'll unintentionally agree that you're a wannabe dictator or some shit.
- **Brain Damage:** Apparently smashing your head straight into bricks doesn't help with your recall and Dr. Mario's not here to toss brain fixing pills at you. You can have speech options appear backwards or sometimes your controls reverse, or the games language will change without warning. It's like Psycho-Mantis except it's just inside Mario's shattered noggin.

Special Move — Star Power Synergy:

If you successfully push to make Power-Ups more readily available, Mario gets access to an invulnerability star which besides having a banger soundtrack makes him immune to political attack ads and gaffe damage which seriously helps offset his weaknesses.

Luigi Mario — Vice-President (R)

Yeah, that's right it's Luigi and just like in most games other than Luigi's mansion, Luigi is second banana to Mario. He's pretty much exactly how you'd imagine him as a vice-presidential candidate and everything you like about him in other games is here too. I didn't mention this in the Mario section but whoever decided to do the Mario Mario and Luigi Mario thing from the Super Mario Brothers Movie is my goddamn hero. Let's get into Luigi's strengths and weaknesses because yes, bafflingly he does have strengths.

Strengths:

- **Underdog:** Luigi's got this amazing knack for making every single thing he does correctly feel like an upset win and that acts as a massive multiplier especially in public arenas where Luigi is expected to stutter and stumble his way through the whole damn thing and he makes the Republican party feel like Rocky winning against Apollo in Rocky II.
- **Cautious:** Unlike Mario, whose brain trauma has fogged up his windshield and will send him careening into saying some abhorrent shit because Luigi is such a coward he's also super risk averse which combined with Mario can make for some really viable strategies.
- **Real Estate Magnate:** Trump may have Mar-A-Lago but Luigi has his mansion, and I bet Trump has never had to fight ghosts for his property (Release the Epstein

Files by the way). Luigi can make big promises based on his own success and you can get powerful bonuses by promising America luxurious yet affordable housing.

Weaknesses:

- **Notorious Coward:** Luigi's reputation proceeds him and not in a good way, Tails might be a little bitch sometimes, but Luigi is shaking in his boots at the first sign of a public speaking engagement. It makes publicity 100,000x harder when you use Luigi.
- **Nepobro:** A lot of people have made the connection that Luigi and Mario have the same last name, which is better than you would think Americans would do. So, naturally they ask the wrong questions like "Do you think it's appropriate for your brother to be your pick for vice-president?" If you've got a strategy for managing that let me know.
- **Civil War:** Luigi has been player two for a long time and that resentment is bubbling like my ass after I have Chipotle. That shit is ready to burst and if it does, you're going to be left picking up the pieces like a game of 52 pickup. During my first run I had Luigi get on X and slander Mario saying that he ripped off the mustache look from him and that his overalls were fake Gucci. I don't think you can even buy Gucci overalls.

Special Move — Poultergust Pamphlet Blast!:

With a straight face I must tell you that Luigi sets his Poultergust from "suck to blow". Okay now that is out of the way, let me tell you what that shit does. Basically, at any public event Luigi can change the setting on his Poultergust to blast the crowd with any sort of inane rhetoric that Mario thinks up and gets them into a frenzy, it's honestly the funniest shit you've never seen.

Toad — Campaign Chair & Chief of Staff Pick

Toad is the obvious choice for Mario's campaign chair considering the Republican party's track record and Mario's head injury but don't let that fool you, Toad is a surprisingly competent campaign chair. Maybe he's keeping political savvy in that big old mushroom head of his, but he's rip roarin' and ready to go to make sure the GOP gets to take a shit in the Oval Office.

Strengths:

- **Cokehead Energy:** Toad has energy for days; this little guy will make the Energizer Bunny tap out. Pro Gamer strat here, Toad has energy, and Mario has endurance so you can push the Republicans really far if you synergize correctly. But yeah, this little guy has weaponized yapper power, and you can rake in votes and doubloons if you're smarter than a 5th grader when you use him.
- **Mario Stan:** Toad adores Mario so there will never be dissention from him, which is handy if Luigi starts to get a little big in the ole overalls if you know what I mean. If Luigi starts getting designs in his head, you can just have Toad follow him around and he'll rethink that real quick. It's not that Toad's threatening Luigi by the way it's that he's annoying him so much he can't put out a coherent tweet.
- **Adorable:** Look at him! I mean really look at the little guy! You can use him to either sway people who like cute shit and are otherwise disinterested in politics or get people to go aww while you conveniently sidestep what's happening in Gaza. He's like your anywhere, anytime escape hatch and considering how the Republicans play, you'll need it.

Weaknesses:

- **Toadverload:** His energy lets him do a lot of shit consecutively but not concurrently and if you give him more than like three things to do, he will meltdown instantly no matter how much energy he has. He'll be flailing his arms and running around the campaign headquarters like that episode of SpongeBob where he got told to forget everything other than fine dining and breathing.
- **Panicky Boy:** See above but if the Republicans start falling behind in the polls he'll freak and transmogrify into your high school group project members, utterly useless. This weakness is devastating because he has so much energy it's almost impossible to get him back on track, so you have to pick up wins or else he'll be holed up in his office like it's Y2K 2012 shit.
- **Have You Heard Him?:** His voice isn't just grating for the player, it's grating in the game, and you can lose staffers if you aren't selective with having Toad order people around. If you try to negate this effect by getting more Toads you're playing with fire there buddy because you'll be hemorrhaging staffers and if you fall behind in the polls your whole campaign will meltdown like Chuck McGill in that episode of Better Call Saul.

Special Move — Total Toad Mobilization:

Toad can basically summon an army out of his ass so like if you don't have the kind of turnout, you need or you need people to canvas for you and you're short on shekels you can have him pull the clone army out like Kamino in Attack of the Clones. It really helps if you botched a fundraising event which because you're playing as the Republicans you're about as likeable as sandpaper toilet paper.

The Democratic Ticket: Sonic the Hedgehog & Miles "Tails" Prower

Platform: Green Hill Deal

Slogan — "Gotta go fast!"

Sonic has had a big bowl of sugary cereal because he's going at high fucking speeds for this one. He has a platform of using the Chaos Emeralds to power America with green energy but in one rally he'll talk about everything from healthcare to how much he loves Chili Dogs, it's a rush. Apparently and I'm reading the box blurb directly here, Sonic decided to run because he heard run and that sounded like a party to him. He's bringing Super Sonic Speed to politics and whoever did the writing for this game I swear must be on drugs because I was busting a gut and there's no way the clowns at Sonic Team could be this funny. Call me Scrooge McDuck because I'm about to dive in.

Sonic T. Hedgehog — President (D)

That's right Sonic's the candidate with the big D, Democrat that is. Sonic brings energy to his campaign, green energy that is but also just energy and general. Like Lightning McQueen, HE IS SPEED. I found a special stage where Sonic races a high-speed rail for no reason. I originally thought it didn't do anything except give Sonic a chance to show off for like zero people, but it turns out it went viral on TikTok. Sonic has the charisma that Democrats can only dream of and can't conceive of.

Strengths:

- **AOC But Better:** Sonic has policies ideas ripped straight from AOC but without the negative modifier of being a woman of color in modern America. Also, the Chaos emeralds generate unlimited energy so it's really easy to fall back to that talking point if you're getting run over like a child in a school zone in Florida.
- **Rebel Sell:** Sonic's got this rebellious energy that in some games has come off really cringe but in this game the writing makes it work. He's got this fight the

power attitude and an actual spine to defend the environment unlike the actual Democrats so he can really energize the left.

- **The Rizzler:** Like I said earlier, Sonic can be really cringe depending on whether the writers huffed gasoline that day but, in this game he has legitimate rizz which the Democrats desperately need and haven't had since Obama. He's basically an actual superhero too which sells the whole cool thing. Mario's just a regular ass guy but Sonic has an actual fucking superpower.

Weaknesses:

- **ADHD Incarnate:** Ho boy if you thought Mario's head injury was tough to deal with just try keeping Sonic on task for more than two fucking seconds. You really have to play to Sonic's strengths because if you try to do anything other than that you will fling your controller across the room.
- **Oil & Gas Ass Blast:** The number of times the Oil and Gas lobby fucked me during my Democrat run had to have been a world record. They hate Sonic, like doctors hate this one simple trick and they will stop at nothing to destroy you. They will invade you like the U.S. heard there was oil inside you. Probably the most realistic part of the game.
- **Cringe Fanbase:** The LAGA base can at least be mobilized effectively, Sonic's fans will draw fanart that makes me want to hurl. Let me make this clear, these are not Democrats like the LAGA Republicans, these are just people who are fans of Sonic. Someone at Sega has clearly been around someone who is terminally online because they're translated right into this game.

Special Move — Super Sonic Speed:

You know this. Sonic's fucking fast. You can absolutely use this to steamroll Mario like the slow bitch he is. You can campaign in like four or five states in the same day and not even the Mushroom Kingdom's warp pipes or Hunter Biden's crack pipes could get Mario to catch up. If you use this just right, you can absolutely run circles around the Republicans.

Miles Prower — Vice-President (D)

Tails, the two tailed fox with the two-ton cock. He's the jelly to Sonic's peanut butter. The Mountain Dew to Sonic's Doritos. The Jeffery Epstein to Sonic's Donald Trump. Honestly, Tails is the fucking lynchpin of this whole operation, without him Sonic and Knuckles would be dead in the water. Now hold your horses there buckaroo, Tails

isn't perfect but he's honestly way stronger than I thought he would be. Let's read between the tails here and see what he's about.

Strengths:

- **Techbro For Good:** Tails is what Elon Musk is desperately trying to convince the world that he is: a genius. Tails can make all of Sonic's wild ideas feasible and they synergize really well because of that but you can also get Tails to whip up ideas of his own. I had him fix the water in Flint, Michigan. Be careful though because his energy meter is a lot more realistic and you can easily overuse him, and then he'll be deader than the crowd at a Jeb Bush rally.
- **Energy Synergy:** You and I both know Sonic did not come up with the idea to power America with the Chaos Emeralds. Tails is the brains behind the operation and you need to be aware of that if you're going to play the Dems effectively. But that being said Tails can make a lot of shit work that would otherwise be dead in the water if not for him.
- **BFFs:** Sonic and Tails are genuine friends, like all those cringey memes of Biden and Obama when Trump got elected but real. Unlike Mario and Luigi which can meltdown your campaign like an incel getting rejected, these two are legit friends and balance each other well. My friend Timmy says this has been an established friendship since 1992.

Weaknesses:

- **Over-Engineering:** Tails is not free of the Tech-bro curse and if you're not watching him carefully, he'll over engineer solutions to really fucking basic problems. One level a city was having public transportation problems and because I got caught up managing Sonic, Tails suggested that every person be given a jetpack and then got in fights on X about it.
- **Timid:** This should be no surprise to anyone who's played a Sonic game within the last decade, but Tails is pretty deferential to Sonic. It's not like with Luigi where he'll freak out at the thought of public speaking, but it can actually be worse because Tails will do a public event and then look around for Sonic to answer the question. It's really frustrating with things he knows the answer to, like the viability of nuclear power.
- **No Seasoning:** Tails comes off young and naïve like when SpongeBob wanted to be the manager of the Krusty Krab 2 and Mario and Luigi are business owners so they can absolutely smoke Tails if you're not careful with him. You gotta make sure

he's in proximity of Sonic otherwise even if he doesn't outright get pummeled Boomers will think that he's lazy and wants to spend all their money on avocado toast or some shit.

Special Move — Tails Tornado Tour:

Tails gets the ooo's and ah's flowing by getting in his plane and flying around and doing tricks and stuff. It's a pretty good booster for rallies and stuff but in my opinion, this is one of the weakest special moves in the game. Honestly it doesn't matter that much though because Tails is such a godlike character. But it's cool, I guess. It's kind of like finding out your friend is good at juggling, it's like yeah that's neat but that's not why he's your friend.

Knuckles T. Echidna — Campaign Chair & Chief of Staff Pick

Ah yes, "& Knuckles". Unlike Sonic he doesn't chuckle. But what he lacks in ability to comprehend humor he makes up for with one key skill. HE CAN REIGN SONIC IN. That's right. You will need Knuckles for a Dem playthrough because guaranteed Sonic will speed off to do God knows what and Knuckles is like Charlie Murphy to his Rick James. Knuckles will throw hands if that even has the possibility of getting Sonic to focus and trust me you will be doing that constantly. Let's get the skinny on the ole Knuckster.

Strengths:

- **Rock Solid:** Knuckles is the rock to Sonic's scissors. He is an echidna of focus, commitment, and sheer will. Giving Knuckles a task (assuming you assigned him to something he's actually capable of doing) means that it's getting done. Nobody's stopping this train.
- **Dirt Digger:** I guess finding all those emerald shards in Sonic Adventure 1 and 2 really paid off because I used Knuckles to dig up so much dirt on the Republicans. They were constantly having to deal with scandal after scandal after scandal but the best thing is that Knuckles doesn't ever have to fabricate dirt.
- **Black-coded:** I'm serious. Knuckles is black-coded and gives Sonic and Tails a boost with black voters. He can even get Sonic booked on the Breakfast Club and it's somehow not cringey, well... not if you play it right, you can still fuck it up and have the hosts clown on you for being lame. Sonic has to nail the podcast but still it's really powerful.

Weaknesses:

- **Gullible:** Knuckles falls for conspiracy theories like I fall for goth girls with thick thighs. If you don't have Tails there to immediately debunk Knuckles will use the campaign's social media accounts to post things like cops are setting off fireworks in black neighborhoods as part of psy-op to erode their sanity. On the 4th of July.
- **Distrustful:** Yeah, Knuckles is an echidna of contradictions, he's somehow gullible and distrustful at the same time which can alienate potential allies. I had Mitt Romney on the line to potentially denounce Mario but Knuckles blew it because he told Sonic that Mitt only wanted the Master Emerald and wasn't interested in reaching around the aisle.
- **Short Fuse:** While Knuckles is great for keeping Sonic focused if you overuse him he will snap like the headboard of your mom's bed when I'm in town. Not only that, if his energy meter is low anything can set him off. One campaign I got up to make dinner and forgot to pause, and Tails idled and started whistling so Knuckles punched him out the window of the campaign headquarters.

Special Move — Fist of Focus:

Trust me when I say this, you will use this constantly if you play the Dems. Knuckles' special ability is like Adderall for Sonic, it can get him to focus on the task at hand. Knuckles should be the goddamn president if he can get Sonic back on task. Not only that but if you use it during a debate, you can force Sonic or Tails' opponent back onto the topic. Knuckles special move more than makes up for Tails' mediocre onw.

Who Got My Vote?

Now I know you didn't come here just to listen to ole Jake yap at ya. You want the meat; you want a nice juicy steak with a baked potato side cooked to perfection. You want to know which party is better than the other. Here's the deal, they're both good. Now hold it. Hold it! HOLD IT! I'm going to tell you which party I enjoyed more, so you'll get to wet your whistle on some Mad Son 20/20 but first let me tell you something here whippersnapper.

It's a good thing that both parties are fun. If one was better than the other, you'd basically have half a game that sucked, and you'd never touch them like your date never touched you on prom night. They're both fucking hilarious and the writers outdid themselves. Now all that being said... now that I've tickled your pickle with my Star Wars opening crawl, the party I enjoyed the most was the Democrats. It was close, really close, asshole puckeringly close but I really like the way they chose to portray Sonic in this

game. I honestly think that more games should lean on the idea that Sonic is ADHD kind of like the movies did.

The Democrats had this rock-paper-scissors things going on where Knuckles checked Sonic, Sonic checked Tails, and Tails checked Knuckles that I really gelled with, and thought was super intuitive to play. The Republicans where hilarious in their own right and fun to play but I just thought they didn't quite synergize as well. If I had to describe it the Democrats made a triangle and the Republicans made a V. But if I didn't pick your favorite, I dunno mail me some Anthrax or something.

Levels

Did you think we were done? Sit back in your seat mister, this isn't over yet. We've got another fifteen minutes left of class. I want to show you some of my favorite levels because the fact that this game even happened at all is like magnet, a goddamn miracle. I'm here in the Costco givin' out some free samples in the hope that you'll buy it and they'll make another one. Here are me and my buddies' five favorite levels. That's right I convened the council to scientifically determine the best levels in the game. Now, let's be clear, this game has so many more than five bangers, it's true there are a few stinkers but overall, a lot of hits. Let's get into this like a raccoon got into my garbage at three in the morning.

Perfect Chaos PR Disaster:

This is a scandal stage, these happen because you did the political equivalent of ripping major ass at a funeral a previous stage, and I whiffed it at a rally in Green Hill. So, basically Perfect Chaos floods New York and Sonic has to defend Chaos Emerald Energy and it's fucking hilarious but also, it's just fun. I was sitting there grinning like an idiot attempting to explain that just because the Chaos Emeralds are together doesn't mean that Perfect Chaos just shows up.

It was like that meme where that girl is crying and explaining something, and her mom is just staring at her wrapped up in the blanket. I was desperately trying to get the American public to not give up on the unlimited energy of the Chaos Emeralds and frankly I learned more about politics playing this level than I did in my high school government class. But get this, I also learned that if you beat a scandal stage you get a special bonus relating to the scandal that you can use later.

Let’s-a-go, Ohio!

This is a rally stage where I almost got assassinated at but managed to turn it into a victory. It started off deceptively easy because the crowd was mostly LAGA Republicans but midway through a Bullet Bill tried to take me out during my speech. I dodged them both, so I was okay and managed to finish the speech, but my friend told me he was screwing around on a forum online and found out that if you manage to jump on top of the Bullet Bill, you get a photo op that boosts your ratings. So, I tried it out and like your parents walking in on you, I was fucking flabbergasted. It’s real.

That’s the kind of game mechanic that always turns out to be an urban legend, but it wasn’t, it was fucking real just like the Epstein files. I felt like I had gotten a copy of a friend’s handwritten cheat code list for GTA III back in middle school. But don’t worry, this amusement park has more than the Tilt-a-Whirl, it’s got all kinds of party tricks, but I don’t want to ruin the surprise, no peaking. Buy this game, it’s so good I gotta shill for free.

Green Hill Rally

This one isn’t that special, it’s just a solid, well-designed level that introduces you to the Democrat campaign. Not every level (as far as I know) has a secret to it like LAGO or Perfect Chaos but this one is just good fun. Since it’s Green Hill, Sonic’s base is already here so it’s basically a tutorial for the rest of the game but it still throws a lot at you. I’m surprised for a game that’s E 10 and up it and made by Nintendo and Sega it would risk alienating the player with a hard-ish level (it’s not like Cialis hard) but I’m glad they did. But to be honest this whole game comes off like someone spiked the punch at the office party so maybe it’s not that much of a surprise. Still, I had a big ole grin on my face as soon as I realized this was going to be way crazier than the *Olympic Games* series.

Mushroom Samba

This one has me busting a gut laughing and I got walloped at the same time. So, the premise of this one was that after some inflammatory comments about Mexico, I had to meet the president of Mexico, Tikal the Echidna in a cameo appearance (I think she was in either SA1 or SA2, I’m not sure) and convince her that not only was the wall between the U.S. and Mexico getting built but Mexico was going to pay for it and let me tell you, Tikal is not fucking around.

So, I went in with a fire flower thinking that fiery rhetoric would beat her, but she has fucking water powers dude! Or it has something to do with Chaos being watery, either way she extinguished everything I threw at her and made me look like a chump and it was such a vicious beating I thanked her for the privilege. If the writer of this level is reading this, if you're ever in my town you get one free reach around at the time of your choosing.

Vice-Presidential Debate

Surprisingly, I preferred the VP debate over the Presidential debate because I found Tails easier to control and I didn't have to rely on Knuckles special move as often. Don't get me wrong, the Presidential debate gave me a warm fuzzy feeling in my testicles, but the VP debate felt less like Sonic management and more like actual debating and I trounced Luigi. The way I was playing Tails I made Luigi look like a Grade-A chump!

The VP debate is actually optional, but it was a lot of fun for me and if you pick this game up, I recommend not auto-resolving this level. Uh... it'll make your dreams come true or something like that.

The Results Are In...

Look, I know how it sounds. It sounds like Ole Jake is jabbering at you telling you there's gold in them there hills but there is. This game fucks. It is hilarious, fun, and in some moments legitimately insightful. The parties are insane in a way that doesn't feel like edgy middle school humor, and I had a smile plastered on my face for nearly the entire good. It's not Perfect Chaos, pun intended you cowards, there's a few levels that could be better and they could dial it back a bit with how often Mario's head injury affects him and how often Sonic loses focus but all and all it is way more fun than it has any legal right to be.

Considering how touchy Nintendo is about its brands, it's a miracle on ice that this happened but the fact that it was actually pretty damn good? Mamma Mia! Do yourself a favor, no you know what, do me a favor and buy this game. Don't wait for a sale, buy it now so that the soulless suits at Nintendo and Sega relax and realize that being creative and witty can sell and that it's okay to roll the dice once in a while in a setting that isn't execs betting with IPs in backroom deals. I know you don't vote but do yourself a favor and just this once be interested in politics.

492/538

A landslide victory.

This is Mad Son from Gamefarce.com signing off until the next review. Play this game, cowards.